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**From:** Barry Wray [support@fkec.org]  
**Sent:** 5/4/2021 2:03:21 PM  
**To:** Mendelsohn, Mike [Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Ed Russo [erusso7404@aol.com]; Dana Perls [DPerls@foe.org]; Jaydee Hanson [jhanson@centerforfoodsafety.org]  
**Subject:** Re: Pesticide Program Update: Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes

Hi Mike,

Thanks for your response. I just shared this with Ed Messina a few minutes ago and wanted to provide a few thoughts on community perception given the format, late stage timing and other dynamics.

We appreciate the EPA's interest for communication to our community, but are curious about goals for this video conference at this late stage in the process? Q&A translates to a feeling of participation, not just being spoken to. It is unclear who the EPA is communicating with to draw attention to the presentation, or if it is invitation only. You may find people from our community depart frustrated without feeling there was a conversation, versus the same information being shared from just another voice. I'm not sure the EPA realizes the growing anger in the community, but you may look back and consider this the quite time.

We find it enigmatic that with numerous areas of uninvestigated new discovery the EPA has not realized the potential risks to human and environmental safety and chosen to return to a scientific position requiring a more robust evaluation of the technology prior to proceeding.

Just wondering how the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court ruling from last week, that to some suggests willful negligence within the EPA is unprotected, is being considered in respect to the decision to proceed with the OX5034 EUP, without requiring independent scientific investigation. Common sense typically causes people to ask more questions of vendors whose products have failed, not less. A vendor who purposely misrepresented material claims on their prior EPA application and then chose to interfere with normal regulatory processes by using political influence, would that suggest more scrutiny, or less?

Hope that helps! See you tomorrow!

Thank you as always for your time and efforts.

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**From:** "Mendelsohn, Mike" <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 9:47 AM  
**To:** Barry Wray <support@fkec.org>  
**Cc:** Ed Russo <erusso7404@aol.com>

**Subject:** RE: Pesticide Program Update: Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes

Barry,

Good to hear you are aware and will help make others aware. Thanks! The webinar will not have an audience question and answer format, but we will be going over some frequently asked questions.

Mike Mendelsohn, Chief  
Emerging Technologies Branch  
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**From:** Barry Wray <support@fkec.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 03, 2021 10:34 AM  
**To:** Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ed Russo <erusso7404@aol.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Pesticide Program Update: Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes

Hi Mike,

We did become aware on Friday. I have actually signed up and we will promote this for everyone to join who can.

Do you know if the format will enable the audience to participate in Q&A? I would expect this to be important to many who will join the session.

Thanks for keeping us in the loop!

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**From:** "Mendelsohn, Mike" <[Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** Monday, May 3, 2021 at 10:29 AM

**To:** Barry Wray <[support@fkec.org](mailto:support@fkec.org)>

**Subject:** FW: Pesticide Program Update: Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes

Barry,

We wanted to make you aware of the webinar we are having this coming Wednesday. Can you help spread the word?  
Thanks!

Mike Mendelsohn, Chief  
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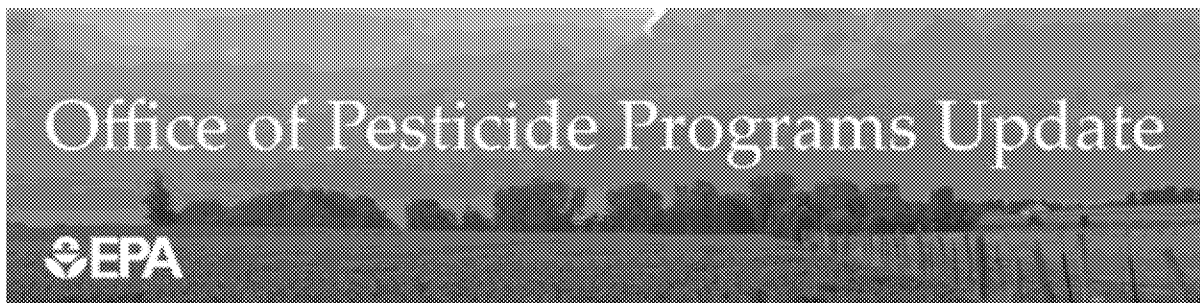
**From:** U.S. EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention <[oppt.epa@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:oppt.epa@public.govdelivery.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2021 5:13 PM

**To:** Mendelsohn, Mike <[Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov](mailto:Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Pesticide Program Update: Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes

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**Attend EPA's Webinar about the Experimental Use Permit for the Oxitec Genetically Engineered Aedes aegypti Mosquitoes**

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On May 5, 2021, EPA will host a webinar for the public to learn about the approval of an [experimental use permit \(EUP\)](#) to allow Oxitec Ltd. to field test the use of genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes as a way to reduce mosquito populations.

Like all pesticides, Oxitec's mosquitoes, genetically engineered for population control, are regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). To be approved for an EUP or registration under FIFRA, pesticides must be shown to not cause unreasonable adverse effects to humans or the environment. Data submitted by Oxitec have demonstrated that genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes meet the FIFRA approval standard.

The EUP contains significant protections, including weekly monitoring and sampling of the mosquito population in the treatment areas, that also enabled the agency to determine the product meets the FIFRA safety standard. Additionally, it's important to note that only adult male genetically engineered *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes will be present in the environment and they do not bite people, further supporting EPA's finding that the mosquitoes are not expected to present risks to human health. If an unforeseen event occurs, EPA has maintained the right to cancel the EUP at any point during the 24-month period.

[Click here to register for the webinar.](#)

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